



YEAR IN REVIEW 2025



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BECOME A MEMBER

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Weld Australia members continue to lead the way in innovation, environmental sustainability, diversity and inclusion, and health and safety. We are extremely proud to be your peak body. Preparing our annual Year in Review, it was such a positive feeling to look back over all of the successes our industry has had this year.

We’ve been busy behind the scenes at Weld Australia too. Our advocacy work paid dividends this year. Focused on issues such as onshoring and local content procurement, renewable energy and adherence to quality standards, we generated significant media coverage and political interest and policy progress.

We hosted 25 member events this year that were attended by more than 2,100 people, from industry drinks and technical nights, through to the National Manufacturing Summit in Sydney. Our much anticipated Welding Excellence Awards also returned this year, with events around the country almost sold out already.

Our training department went from strength to strength, with over 500

students completing more than 30 courses this year and receiving positive feedback from TAFE personnel and students on the MEM Learning Resources.

Our qualification and certification team also had a busy year, launching a new combined certification service for AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131. The team also certified 28 new companies, qualified 253 individuals and certified 38 individuals.

The engineering team delivered 102 consultancy projects for 61 clients, reinforcing its role as a trusted partner to the rail, energy, mining, structural steel, and defence industries nationwide.

We advanced several high-impact projects and partnerships that blend industry capability with social purpose, including the ArcAhead Program, a Reciprocal Membership Program and the ‘Buddy Up’ Program with Langi Kal Kal Prison.

It’s the ongoing support from members like you that allows us to continue advocating for the welding industry in Australia, and we



Geoff Crittenden (CEO, Weld Australia)

wholeheartedly thank you for your role in that this year. We hope you will continue your support in 2026.

Please reach out to us via membership@weldaustalia.com.au if you have suggestions or questions.

From everybody at Weld Australia, thank you once again for your continued support.

Geoff Crittenden

Geoff Crittenden
CEO, Weld Australia



“Focused on issues such as onshoring and local content procurement, renewable energy and adherence to quality standards, we generated significant media coverage and political interest and policy progress.”

2025: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Welcome to Weld Australia's 2025 Year In Review – a look at our successes, projects and programs over the last 12 months, as well as that of our members. Throughout the year, we continued to strengthen our advocacy work, facilitated a host of member events, and were involved in a range of industry events. We hosted the National Manufacturing Summit in Sydney, as well as the 2025 Welding Excellence Awards. And, we did all this while continuing to reinforce our membership offering, and providing high-quality training courses and certification services.

It really is an exciting time to be a Weld Australia member. We are committed to using our extensive experience, combined with an innovative new approach, to achieve our primary goal, ensuring that the Australian welding industry remains locally and globally competitive, both now and into the future. The entire Weld Australia team is looking forward to a busy, successful 2026.



14,454
Welders Registered
on the Australian Welder
Certification Register (AWCR)

10,223
People in the Weld
Australia Community

2,114
People Attended
Events

509
People Completed
Training Courses



18
Newly Qualified
IWES & IWTs



94
Newly Qualified
Welding Inspectors



35
State Committee
Meetings



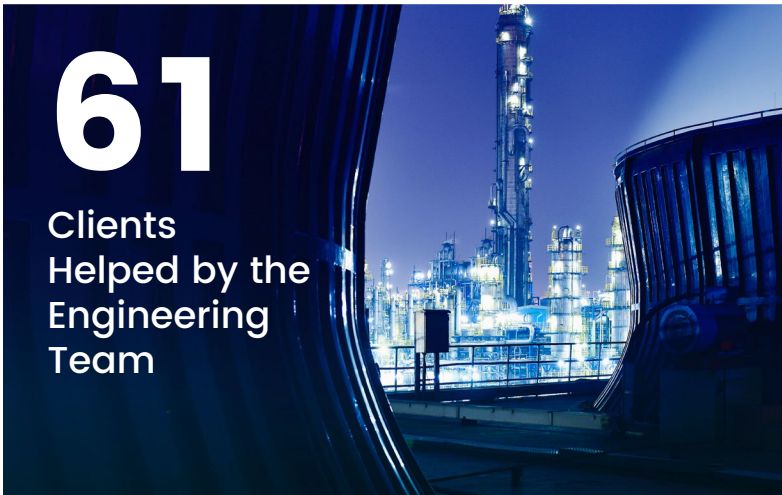
102
Projects Delivered
by the
Engineering
Team



25
Member
Events



155
Welding Supervisor
Students



61
Clients
Helped by the
Engineering
Team



28
Newly
Certified
Companies

WELD AUSTRALIA'S ADVOCACY IN 2025



As the peak body for welding in Australia, our primary goal is to ensure that the Australian welding industry remains both locally and globally competitive, both now and into the future. In all our advocacy activities, our over-reaching vision is to facilitate the growth of a world class welding industry.

Weld Australia's advocacy agenda focused on the need for specific, enforceable local content requirements (particularly for Australia's renewable energy revolution), training initiatives for the next generation of welders and fabricators, and ensuring mandated quality standards for public infrastructure to protect public safety.

Weld Australia Demands Urgent Government Action to Implement Enforceable Local Content Requirements

Weld Australia welcomes Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's call for Australians to "buy local" in response to the 25% steel and aluminium import tariffs imposed

by US President Trump. However, if the government is serious about supporting Australian industry, it must start by applying its own advice: all federal and state government projects must mandate the use of Australian steel, fabricated by local Australian welders.

According to Weld Australia's CEO, Geoff Crittenden, "It's not enough for the Prime Minister to encourage everyday Australians to buy local while the federal, state and territory governments themselves fail to do so. If the government truly wants to back Australia's steel and manufacturing industries, it must implement and enforce strict local content procurement requirements across all federally funded projects."

"The Australian Government has an immense opportunity—and responsibility—to harness its \$100 billion annual procurement spend to support local manufacturers, fabricators, and welders. Yet, we continue to see key federal and state government infrastructure projects relying on imported steel and offshore fabrication, costing Australian jobs and undermining our sovereign

capability," said Crittenden.

"Australian industry has the skills, the technology, and the workforce to deliver world-class infrastructure projects. But instead, we see government-funded projects using imported fabricated steel that often fails to meet Australian Standards, putting public safety at risk and eroding the long-term viability of our manufacturing sector."

Weld Australia is calling for the immediate introduction of enforceable local content policies that ensure all major federal, state and territory government-funded projects:

- Require a minimum percentage of Australian steel, fabricated by Australian workers.
- Guarantee compliance with Australian Standards to maintain safety and quality.
- Support long-term investment in local manufacturing and sovereign capability.

"The United States, Canada, and European nations have long-standing procurement policies that prioritise domestic industries. Australia must follow suit, or we risk losing our capacity to manufacture the very infrastructure we rely on," Crittenden said.

The impact of past failures to implement strong local content policies is already evident. The closure of Australia's last mainland wind tower manufacturer, Keppel Prince, is a direct consequence of government inaction, as cheap, non-compliant imports continue to undermine the industry.

"The government has a choice: it can continue with business as usual and watch Australian manufacturing collapse, or it can back its own call to 'buy local' by mandating Australian steel and Australian welders for every government project," said Crittenden.

"This isn't just about jobs—it's about national security, economic resilience, and ensuring the quality of our nation's infrastructure."

Australian Governments Must Beat Trump's Tariffs with Nation Building

Weld Australia has issued a strong response to US President Donald Trump's sweeping new tariff regime, which has imposed exorbitant duties on a wide range of global imports, including a staggering 50% tariff on Lesotho's diamond exports. While the age of free trade appears to be drawing to a close, Weld Australia believes that Australia has a unique opportunity to carve out a new path—one based on sovereign manufacturing capability, rather than isolationist policies.

According to Geoff Crittenden, CEO of Weld Australia, "Trump is right about one thing: America gave away its manufacturing capability, and now it's paying the price. But Australia hasn't—yet. We still make steel. We still have a fabrication industry. And we have enormous, growing demand for everything from renewable energy infrastructure to roads, gas plants, and submarines. The solution to this crisis isn't more tariffs—it's simple. Let's build our own infrastructure ourselves."

Trump's chaotic tariff regime is set to create untold misery and uncertainty, particularly for developing nations already grappling with poverty. These sweeping changes could destabilise global trade, disrupt supply chains, and spark inflation worldwide.

"This isn't just a bad day for trade—it's a disaster for global equity," said Crittenden. "Poor nations like Lesotho, who have no electricity or running water, and Madagascar, where three-quarters of the population lives in poverty, are now being hit with sky-high tariffs simply for trying to participate in the global economy. It's punitive and unjust."

While the World Trade Organisation (WTO) was originally established by the United States to enforce rules-

Driving Change via Government Engagement

Our engagement with all levels of government—federal, state, and local—is strategic, proactive, and consistent.

Through regular meetings with ministers, departmental leaders, and senior advisors, we advocate for policies that support sovereign manufacturing capability, strengthen local content requirements, and protect the future of Australia's welding and fabrication workforce.

The following is a snapshot of the formal meetings we've held with government representatives in recent months. These meetings are a testament to Weld Australia's influence and credibility in policy conversations shaping the future of Australian industry.

- The Hon Tim Ayres, Federal Minister for Industry and Innovation, and Minister for Science
- Sara Mulholland, Senior Adviser Education, for the Hon Jo Palmer, Tasmanian Minister for Education
- Richard Duke, Director of School and Industry Engagement Branch from the Victorian Department of Education
- Greg Leslie - Manager, Statewide Opportunities, Senior Secondary Pathways Reform Taskforce from the Victorian Department of Education
- Phoebe Wearne, Principal Policy Adviser, for the Hon Sabine Winton, Western Australia Minister for Education
- Kelly Mizzi, Acting Director, Work Readiness for the Hon Anoulack Chanthivong MP, New South Wales Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, and Minister for Corrections
- The Hon Steve Whan, New South Wales Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education
- The Hon Frank Pangallo, Independent Member of the South Australian Legislative Council
- Jonathan Huston, Western Australia Shadow Minister for Deregulation, Small Business, and Public Sector Reform

Advocacy in Action

Watch this short video for a snapshot of Weld Australia's ongoing advocacy efforts, highlighting how we're working with government, industry, and the media to strengthen local content policies, improve safety standards, and secure a sustainable future for Australia's welding sector.



based trade, its effectiveness has waned. “The WTO has failed to act on dumping in Australia by a range of countries, particularly in steel and fabricated steel. If they can’t or won’t enforce the rules, what’s the point?” said Crittenden.

Rather than following the US into a trade war spiral, Weld Australia urges the Australian Government to take a proactive, nation-building approach.

“There’s nothing in WTO rules that says we can’t buy from our own backyard. We don’t need tariffs—we just need to choose Australian steel and Australian fabrication,” said Crittenden.

“Australia has the demand. We have the choice. So, let’s make the right one. We can either hand our infrastructure pipeline over to overseas suppliers, or we can rebuild our sovereign capability and create wealth and jobs right here at home.”

From wind towers and bridges to critical minerals processing and naval shipbuilding, the opportunities for Australian-made infrastructure are enormous. Australian manufacturers are already being invited into the US to fill gaps in capability—gaps that we still possess.

“If the Americans are turning to us to help them rebuild, why aren’t we backing ourselves?” said Crittenden.

“This is a good news story waiting to happen. We have the tools, the talent, and the demand. It’s time for Australian politicians to offer a solution to Trump’s tariff disaster: let’s build our way out of it.”

“Let’s build our own boats, our own submarines, our renewables, our roads. Let’s invest in the industries that will strengthen our economy and our sovereignty. Let’s create the jobs and the prosperity that will carry us through the uncertainty of the Trump era. We don’t need chaos—we need action.”

Weld Australia Warns: Without Government Action, Aussie Fabricators Face Extinction

Weld Australia is calling for urgent government intervention to prevent the collapse of Australia’s local welding and fabrication industry, warning that without immediate action on the rising use of non-compliant, imported fabricated steel, businesses will continue to shut down, leaving the nation without the capability to deliver critical infrastructure projects.

Geoff Crittenden, CEO of Weld Australia, said the issue highlights three pressing national priorities:

1. Enforcing compliance with international quality standards
2. Implementing mandatory inspections of imported fabricated steel
3. Introducing enforceable local content requirements in government procurement.

“Right now, we have local manufacturers losing work to overseas fabricators simply because they can’t compete with low-cost imports that are not held to the same quality standards,” said Crittenden. “This isn’t just a commercial issue—it’s a matter of national safety and sovereign capability.”

“In the last 18 months alone, an estimated \$282.9 million worth of fabricated steel, or 62,866 tonnes, has been imported into Sydney from overseas. That’s hundreds of millions of dollars flowing offshore—undermining Australia’s local manufacturing industry, costing valuable Australian jobs, and having a huge impact on our economy,” said Crittenden. “In real terms, \$282.9 million worth of fabricated steel equates to 12 months’ worth of work for 400 full-time welders, or approximately 16 mid-sized local Australian fabrication businesses.”

“Some of our local New South Wales members estimate that they have seen a 40% decrease in business over the last 18 months, citing imports as the key cause. Our members have been excluded



from projects despite extensive experience, certifications, and capacity. Instead, the work was awarded to foreign contractors.”

“To remain competitive, local manufacturers are being forced to lower their prices to remain afloat, despite the fact they are supplying higher quality products that adhere to safety standards. This directly impacts their profit margins. The reduced pricing power limits their ability to invest in new technology, staff training, and other growth initiatives,” said Crittenden.

“This isn’t about shutting out the world,” said Crittenden. “It’s about holding every supplier—local or overseas—to the same safety and quality standards. Anything less is a risk to both industry and public safety.”

“We cannot afford to continue undermining our own industry,” concluded Crittenden. “We must act now to protect local capability, national safety and the future of Australian manufacturing.”

We Know What Works

There are pockets of excellence to learn from. Government-managed projects delivered by road and rail authorities typically mandate rigorous technical specifications (for example, compliance with AS/NZS ISO 3834, AS/NZS 5131 and AS 4100), third-party certification and welding inspection. Quality is high because the specification and the assurance are non-negotiable. South Australia has gone a step

further with its Master Specification ST-SS-S1: Fabrication of Structural Steelwork, which neatly integrates Australian Standards and quality systems, and crucially sets additional requirements for overseas fabrication, including qualified supervisors, welder re-qualification, and inspection in Australia before assembly or erection.

If every state adopted an aligned, harmonised specification, and if the National Construction Code referenced those requirements, we would finally have a consistent compliance framework across the country.

With leadership from the Hon Tim Ayres, Minister for Industry and Innovation and Minister for Science, and collaboration with state governments, regulators and industry bodies, we can put in place a harmonised, enforceable compliance regime that works for everyone: owners, builders, governments, fabricators and the public.

Industry is ready to do its part. But without state and federal government backing, the best specification sits idle and the best intent goes unenforced. We need a policeman. We need a mandate. And we need it now. If we want safe bridges, durable assets and world-class defence projects—built in Australia, by Australian companies, to Australian Standards—then state and federal governments must support the system that guarantees it. Back the model, fund the authority, and let’s give Australians the quality, value and security they deserve.

What Needs to Happen Now

- **Harmonise procurement:** Incorporate the key elements of South Australia’s ST-SS-S1 across the National Construction Code and all state specifications for fabricated structural steel. Make compliance verifiable, not declaratory.
- **Establish the National Fabrication Authority:** Empower an independent body to certify companies in Australia and overseas to Australian Standards and to inspect fabricated steel prior to erection.
- **Specify quality systems:** Mandate AS/NZS ISO 3834, AS/NZS 5131 and AS 4100 for all structural steelwork, with qualified welding supervision and periodic welder re-qualification for overseas work.
- **Inspect imports at the gate:** Require inspection of imported fabricated steel in Australia before assembly. If it doesn’t comply, it doesn’t proceed.
- **Align incentives:** Ensure procurement policies value compliance and whole-of-life performance. Disallow practices that treat “lowest upfront cost” as a proxy for value, especially where conformance evidence is weak.

Gas Exports Push Manufacturers to the Brink: Weld Australia Demands Urgent Government Action

Weld Australia called on the Federal and State Governments to take immediate and decisive action to protect Australian manufacturers, following the release of new research in August from *The Australia Institute* showing that east coast gas exports have caused wholesale gas prices to more than triple and electricity prices to double since 2015.

According to the Australia Institute's report, average wholesale gas prices rose from \$3.33 per gigajoule before exports began, to \$9.67 per gigajoule today—an increase of 190%. Electricity prices, closely tied to gas prices due to the National Electricity Market's pricing mechanism, have surged by 73% over the same period.

The decision to allow unrestricted gas exports from the Australian east coast gas market has led to a tripling of domestic wholesale gas and electricity prices. It has left Australians exposed to not only higher world energy prices, but also the wild fluctuations that events like the Ukraine war cause.

Geoff Crittenden, CEO of Weld Australia, warned that Australian manufacturers are bearing the brunt of these price hikes. "Gas exports have exposed Australian manufacturers to international price volatility and cost blowouts that are decimating their competitiveness. Our industry is already under intense pressure from subsidised imports. Rising energy costs are a double blow many can't survive," said Crittenden.

"It beggars belief that, for over a decade, governments have allowed LNG producers to export surplus uncontracted gas while Australian manufacturers struggle to secure affordable supply. The system is broken, and it needs to be fixed now."

The Australia Institute's research highlights how these price increases are no accident. Gas companies were explicit in their intention to raise domestic prices to match export markets. The price impacts are not limited to gas alone. As gas-powered generators often set the wholesale electricity price, manufacturers are being hit with inflated power bills due to the same export-driven dynamics.



PRESS CONFERENCE

The Australia Institute research was launched at a press conference in Canberra, with speakers:

- Senator David Pocock, Independent Senator for the ACT
- Dr Monique Ryan MP, Independent Member for Kooyong
- Geoff Crittenden, Chief Executive Officer, Weld Australia
- Mark Ogge, Principal Advisor, the Australia Institute
- Cassandra Goldie, CEO of the Australian Council of Social Service



WATCH THE PRESS CONFERENCE >>

MEDIA COVERAGE

[‘Total madness’: Senator David Pocock slams net-zero review.](#) published by [The Australian](#)

[Independent ACT Senator calls gas export system a scam.](#) published by [SBS News](#)

[Pocock and Ryan want exporters to divert uncontracted gas for domestic use.](#) published by [The Guardian](#)

[‘Steam out their ears’: Australians fired up about gas exports.](#) published by [The Australian Financial Review](#)

[2CC Radio Canberra: Live on-air interview with Geoff Crittenden on 6 August at 6.35am](#)

[FiveAA Radio Adelaide: Live on-air interview with Geoff Crittenden on 5 August at 9.15am](#)

MEDIA COVERAGE

[2GB Radio Interview: In-studio interview with Geoff Crittenden on 20 March](#)

[ABC Radio NSW State-Wide Morning Show: On-air interview with Geoff Crittenden on 18 March](#)

[2ST Radio South Coast: On-air interview with Geoff Crittenden on 18 March](#)

[88.9 FM Tamworth Radio: On-air interview with Geoff Crittenden on 18 March](#)

[New windfarms welcome, but will see local manufacturers sidelined over Chinese imports: Weld Australia.](#) published by [AuManufacturing](#)

[Weld Australia calls for local manufacturing mandates in nation's renewable energy expansion.](#) published by [Australian Manufacturing](#)

[Weld Australia launches new certification service.](#) published by [The Tradie](#)

[New Weld Australia certification service aims to cut costs by simplifying compliance for manufacturers.](#) published by [Australian Manufacturing](#)

[Weld Australia joins forces with global leaders to future proof manufacturing.](#) published by [Australian Manufacturing](#)

[Weld Australia partners up with EWI and CWB.](#) published by [AuManufacturing](#)

[Farmers at risk: Cheap Asian-made wind towers imported without local weld inspections.](#) published by [the Weekly Times](#)

[Endeavour Awards special feature: Leader of the year.](#) published by [Manufacturers' Monthly](#)

[Why quality standards matter in Australian manufacturing.](#) published by [Manufacturers' Monthly](#)

[Australian welding body calls for sovereign manufacturing in response to Trump tariffs.](#) published by [AuManufacturing](#)

[Australian Governments Must Beat Trump's Tariffs with a Nation Building Approach.](#) published by [the Toowoomba Chronicle](#)

[Weld Australia boss calls for wind towers around Ballarat and beyond to be Australian made with Aussie steel.](#) published by [PowerFM Ballarat](#)

[Weld Australia calls for local manufacturing mandates in nation's renewable energy expansion.](#) published by [Australian Manufacturing](#)



WATCH GEOFF CRITTENDEN DISCUSS TRUMP'S TARIFFS AND LOCAL MANUFACTURING CAPABILITY >>>

[Indigenous welders invited to showcase cultural creativity on a global stage.](#) published by [Manufacturers Monthly](#)

[2GB Radio: live interview with Geoff Crittenden on Tuesday 27 May](#)

[ABC Radio Illawarra: live interview with Geoff Crittenden on Thursday 22 May](#)

[ABC Radio Illawarra: live interview with Simon Terry \(CEO, Dux\) on Thursday 22 May](#)

[2BS Bathurst Radio: live interview with Geoff Crittenden on Thursday 22 May](#)

[2FM Radio: live interview with Geoff Crittenden on Thursday 22](#)

[Strengthening Australia's manufacturing resilience: Skills, sovereignty and solutions.](#) published by [Manufacturers Monthly](#)

[Weld Australia repurposes welding simulators to empower future workforce.](#) published by [Australian Manufacturing](#)

[Weld Australia Launches ArcAhead.](#) published by [AuManufacturing](#)

[ArcAhead – Turning yesterday's tools into tomorrow's opportunities.](#) published by [Manufacturers' Monthly](#)

[Weld Australia wants national inspection.](#) published by [AuManufacturing](#)

[Weld Australia calls for national inspection regime.](#) published by [Manufacturers' Monthly](#)

[Weld Australia urges gov't to enforce inspections on imported steel.](#) published by [Australian Manufacturing](#)

MAJOR PROJECTS & PARTNERSHIPS

This year, Weld Australia advanced several high-impact projects and partnerships that blend industry capability with social purpose. The programs are extending the life of legacy welding simulators while opening training pathways for underserved communities, and strengthening rehabilitation, employability and community reintegration for prisoners. We've also partnered with international organisations for skills and knowledge transfers, as well as local bodies to amplify the voice of industry. Together, these projects help lift skills, widen access and build sovereign capability.

ArcAhead: Turning Yesterday's Tools into Tomorrow's Opportunities

In May, Weld Australia announced the launch of ArcAhead, a groundbreaking initiative designed to extend the life of legacy augmented reality welding simulators while creating meaningful social impact. Through the ArcAhead program, decommissioned and legacy augmented reality welding simulators will be refurbished and redistributed to communities in need, helping to foster welding career pathways for disadvantaged groups, including youth, Indigenous communities, and those in remote and regional areas.

"With ArcAhead, we're not just reusing hardware. We're reigniting opportunity," said Ben Mitchell, Director, Strategic Partnerships at Weld Australia. "The program bridges the gap between surplus equipment and underserved communities, delivering both environmental and social value."

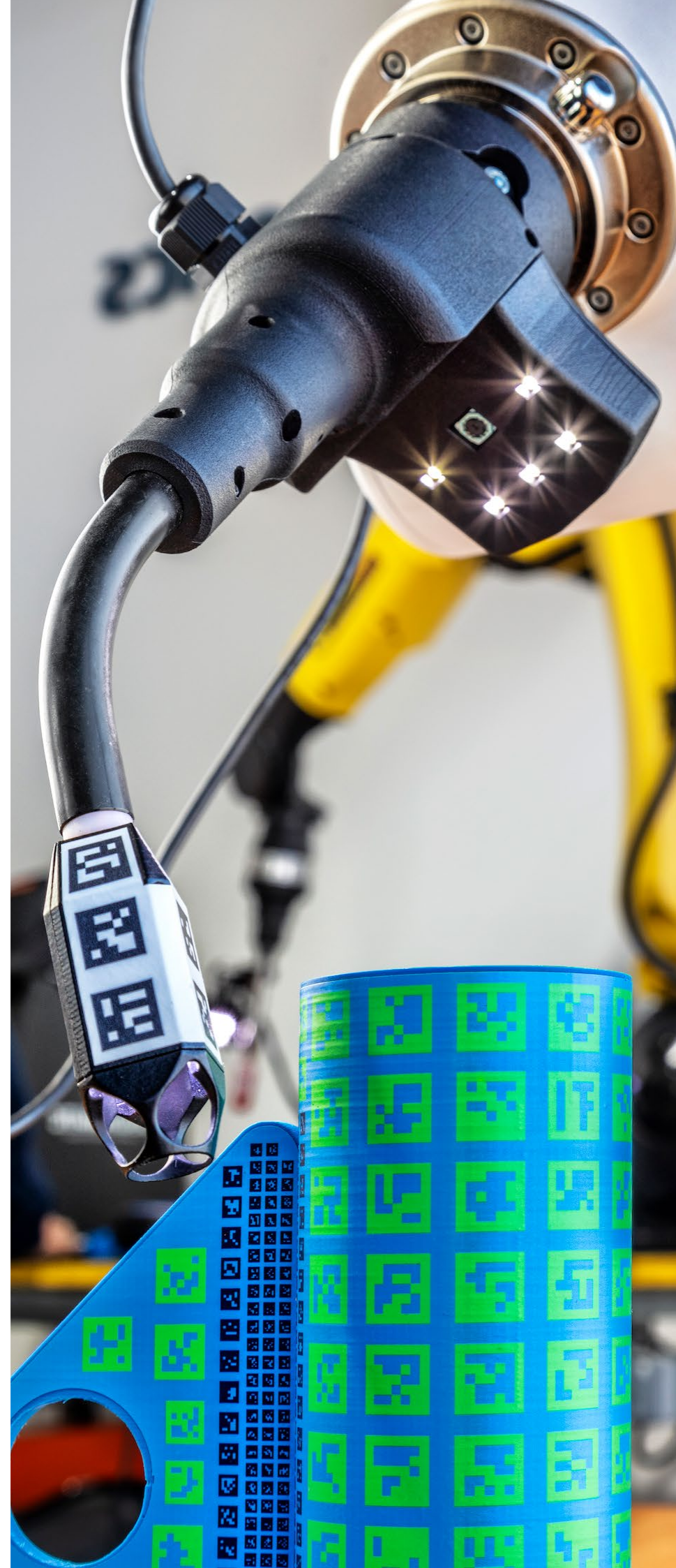
"By upgrading to the latest Soldamatic 5.0 augmented reality welding simulator, participants not only receive a 15% discount on new hardware but also take part in a meaningful social impact project. Rather than returning legacy simulators to the manufacturer, Weld Australia works collaboratively with customers to donate these units to underprivileged or Indigenous schools and communities, introducing welding as a career pathway and supporting Australia's growing demand for skilled welders."

Reciprocal Membership Program Strengthens Industry Collaboration and Capability

Weld Australia officially launched its Reciprocal Membership Program in May—an ambitious new initiative designed to build stronger connections across Australian industry.

Weld Australia's Reciprocal Membership invites like-minded associations and organisations to align with Weld Australia in a shared mission: to strengthen sovereign capability, promote local procurement, champion high-quality standards, and support the development of a skilled, future-ready workforce. Under the program, Weld Australia will offer free Associate or Affiliate level membership to partner organisations, while granting Weld Australia members reciprocal access to key events, training, content, and networks through those partner organisations.

"This program is about creating strength in unity," said Ben Mitchell, Director, Strategic Partnerships at Weld Australia. "By aligning with organisations that share our values and purpose, we can amplify our collective voice, advocating more effectively to government, regulators, and the wider community. We're stronger together than we are alone. Whether it's promoting local industry participation in major projects, improving safety through adherence to standards, or shaping future training pathways, the organisations best placed to drive progress are those working together," said Mitchell.



Buddy Up' Program for Inmate Literacy

Weld Australia is proud to announce its support for the transformative Buddy Up Program, developed by Future Shapers (Committee for Ballarat's leadership program) and HM Prison Langi Kal Kal. The program is designed to break down barriers to education by improving literacy among people in prison through peer-led learning - and now, Weld Australia is calling on more organisations to get involved.

The Buddy Up Program was born out of an empathy mapping session conducted at HM Prison Langi Kal Kal, a minimum-security men's prison in Victoria's Grampians region. The session revealed that many people in prison can struggle with basic literacy skills. Offering a variety of educational programs in prison is critical to upskilling and leads to potential employment pathways and real job opportunities.

The empathy mapping session was part of the Future Shapers initiative facilitated by the Committee of Ballarat. Future Shapers draws together a cohort of emerging leaders from all sectors across Ballarat and the region, to think, question, build connections, broaden understanding of community leadership and effect positive change. The Buddy Up Program pairs learners with peer coaches and uses the Toe-by-Toe structured literacy model to provide individualised support in a judgment-free, peer-driven environment. Ten people in prison successfully completed the pilot program in 2024, with more participants enrolled in 2025.

"This is about more than just learning to read. It's about restoring dignity,

confidence, and hope," said Ben Mitchell, Director of Strategic Partnerships at Weld Australia. "It was incredibly moving to see first-hand the impact Buddy Up is having. You can see the change in the way participants carry themselves. It's giving them not just a new skill, but a belief in themselves and their future. By supporting Buddy Up, we're helping to remove a fundamental barrier to rehabilitation. Literacy is a critical enabler of education, employment and reintegration."

Weld Australia provided funding for the learning resources used in the program. Now, the organisation is seeking more partners to help expand Buddy Up and ensure its long-term success. "Literacy is the foundation for education, employment and reintegration," said Mitchell. "We're calling on other organisations to get involved. With more support, we can expand Buddy Up to other facilities and give more people in prison the opportunity to turn their lives around."

Weld Australia's involvement in Buddy Up builds on its broader commitment to social impact. In 2022, the organisation partnered with Corrections Victoria and Federation University to support the Vocational and Educational Training (VET) Centre of Excellence at Langi Kal Kal. This program gives people in prison the opportunity to train to ISO 9606 international welding standards using augmented reality technology and practical workshop projects, linking participants with employers and support services post-release.

Weld Australia Drives Advanced Manufacturing with New International Partnership

Weld Australia is proud to announce a strategic partnership with two of the world's leading welding technology organisations—EWI (formerly the Edison Welding Institute) and the Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB) Group. This collaboration will provide Australian manufacturers with direct access to cutting-edge automation solutions, world-class research and development (R&D), and advanced training programs.

With Industry 4.0 technologies transforming global manufacturing, this partnership positions Australia at the forefront of innovation, helping local businesses boost productivity, enhance safety, address labour shortages, and reduce costs.

According to Geoff Crittenden, CEO of Weld Australia, “Australian manufacturing is at a pivotal moment. We need to embrace advanced technologies to stay competitive, particularly in high-growth industries like renewable energy and Defence. By partnering with EWI and CWB, we’re ensuring that Australian manufacturers have access to the best automation solutions, training programs, and R&D expertise in the world.”

“EWI is excited to be partnering with Weld Australia to further drive innovation and advanced technologies throughout Australia’s vital manufacturing industries,” said Henry Cialone, President and CEO of EWI. “Together with our affiliate partner CWB, we will also provide essential training to ensure workers have the skills and know-how to support Australia’s industries in the future.”

This partnership will drive innovation across key industries, including renewable energy and defence. EWI’s advanced technologies have already proven successful in improving efficiency, precision, and cost-effectiveness in renewables. EWI’s automated welding systems

enhance the precision and efficiency of wind turbine construction, reducing production time by 30%. Their tele-welding technology allows remote operation of welding systems, enabling real-time oversight and adjustments from anywhere in the world. This innovation is critical for addressing labour shortages and supporting large-scale projects in remote or hazardous environments, such as offshore energy.

In the defence industry, EWI’s automated welding solutions streamline production for naval ships, enhancing quality and reducing costs—essential for Australia’s shipbuilding initiatives. Similarly, EWI’s advanced welding technologies for high-strength materials improve durability and compliance with military standards.

“Beyond technology, this partnership is also focused on upskilling the workforce. CWB and EWI will deliver training programs to help businesses integrate automation successfully, addressing labour shortages while future-proofing the industry. The training will cover essential areas such as cobot programming, welding system integration, and automation safety protocols, equipping workers with the skills needed to adapt to emerging technologies,” said Crittenden.

According to Douglas Luciani, President and CEO of CWB, this partnership with Weld Australia will be a valuable endeavour for all three organisations. “CWB has had a long history of positive engagement with Weld Australia, and we are pleased to be formalising this strategic partnership with them. CWB is committed to delivering high-quality education, training, certification, and other services, to the global welding community. We are proud working with our affiliate partner, EWI, with their expertise in emerging technologies and innovation, to develop groundbreaking training programs that will fit the particular needs of Australia’s welding and manufacturing industries.”

“

We need to embrace advanced technologies to stay competitive. By partnering with EWI and CWB, we’re ensuring that Australian manufacturers have access to the best automation solutions, training programs, and R&D expertise in the world.”

Weld Australia and SEMMA Sign MoU to Amplify the Collective Voice of Australian Manufacturing

Weld Australia and the South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formalise an industry partnership focused on high-impact outcomes for industry. The agreement brings two leading organisations together to strengthen a unified voice on issues that matter to manufacturers—standards, skills, local capability and long-term competitiveness.

Signed by Ben Mitchell (Director, Strategic Partnerships, Weld Australia) and Honi Walker (CEO, SEMMA) the MoU creates a clear, practical framework focused on collaborating to represent, connect, and advocate for manufacturers.

Ben Mitchell, Director, Strategic Partnerships, Weld Australia, said: “This partnership is about the collective power of aligned organisations speaking and acting together for the benefit of Australian manufacturers. By focusing on issues like standards, skills and sovereign capability, we can deliver tangible, system-level benefits for workshops, fabricators and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), lifting quality, productivity and safety across the board.”

“Manufacturers achieve more when industry representative organisations pull in the same direction. This MoU is about harnessing our collective power, aligning networks, events and expertise so members on both sides benefit, and our advocacy to government lands with greater impact. By partnering with SEMMA, we’ll make knowledge-sharing and practical training even more accessible across Melbourne’s manufacturing industry.”

Honi Walker, CEO, SEMMA, said: “SEMMA exists to deliver tangible outcomes for local manufacturers. Partnering with Weld Australia strengthens our advocacy on practical priorities as we have demonstrated through the launch of our Australian Manufacturing BLUEPRINT. Advocating for better policies around stronger local supply chains, and a pipeline of skilled people, while ensuring the region’s manufacturers contribute to national goals – like our Sovereign Capability are a core focus. It’s about getting things done together for the benefit of our members and the wider manufacturing industry.”

Australia’s manufacturing resurgence demands coordinated, cross-sector leadership. This partnership aligns the two organisations around shared priorities like strengthening Sovereign Capability, promoting local participation, championing high-quality standards, and supporting a skilled, future-ready workforce.

Further Information

For further information about any of these major projects or partnerships, contact Ben Mitchell (Director, Strategic Partnerships) on b.mitchell@weldaustralia.com.au

NATIONAL MANUFACTURING SUMMIT 2025

MANUFACTURING AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE
LOCAL STRENGTH, GLOBAL IMPACT
WEDNESDAY 23 & THURSDAY 24 JULY | SYDNEY

 Weld
Australia

Hosted by Weld Australia, the 2025 National Manufacturing Summit saw a diverse group of stakeholders come together on 23 and 24 July at the Shangri-La in Sydney. With the theme of Manufacturing Australia's Future: Local Strength, Global Impact, the Summit delved into the unique opportunity to revitalise Australia's industrial base, ensuring that it not only survives but thrives in the forthcoming decades.

Discussions at the 2025 National Manufacturing Summit focused on revitalising Australian manufacturing by addressing overseas competition, strengthening local capability, and leveraging strategic opportunities, particularly in the renewable energy sector. Key themes included:

Compliance and Fair Competition: A strong focus was placed on the urgent need to address the influx of non-compliant, low-cost imported steel and fabricated components. The presentation by Canadian expert Doug Luciani (President and CEO, CWB Group) demonstrated a proven international model that ensures compliance with national standards. This framework was well received by federal and state government representatives, prompting active discussion on how a similar compliance mandate could be adapted for the Australian context.

Renewable Energy Opportunities: The Summit highlighted the significant manufacturing potential tied to Australia's energy transition. From wind tower fabrication to transmission infrastructure, discussions centred on the need to secure sovereign capability and reduce dependency on overseas suppliers, particularly as global supply chains become more volatile.

Policy Leadership and Long-Term Investment: Speakers reinforced the importance of clear, coordinated policy that supports domestic manufacturing through consistent regulation, strong procurement settings,

and strategic investment. NSW and federal leaders emphasised the power of government procurement to drive demand, de-risk private investment, and ensure long-term sector stability.

Skills, Inclusion and Workforce Strategy:

Equipping a future manufacturing workforce emerged as a central theme. Programs like Corrections Victoria's VET Centre of Excellence model were recognised for their dual social and economic benefits, delivering globally certified training while reintegrating second-chance workers into the labour market. Broader support for skills development is critical.

Structural and Economic Reform: The prevailing economic narratives were challenged, with speakers arguing that Australia has both the wealth and public support to invest in a future made locally. There were calls for practical reforms to energy pricing, export policy, and taxation, designed to create a level playing field for domestic manufacturers.

Building on Momentum: There is a shared recognition that time is running out. With increased dumping of foreign steel into Australia, global competition intensifying, and local capacity under pressure, attendees agreed that immediate action is needed. Encouragingly, there was also a sense of alignment across jurisdictions, and a willingness to move from rhetoric to implementation.



The Hon Tim Ayres, Federal Minister for Industry and Innovation, and Minister for Science

ACTION PLAN

Compliance and Fair Competition

- Review and adapt international models: Undertake a detailed analysis of the Canadian certification and enforcement model presented by Doug Luciani (President and CEO, CWB Group) with a view to adapting key elements for the Australian context.
- Embed compliance into policy and procurement: Develop mechanisms to ensure all fabricated steel used in Australian infrastructure complies with national standards, such as AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131.
- Support legislative reform: Collaborate across federal and state jurisdictions to explore legislative options that mandate compliance and enable enforcement.
- Strengthen the National Construction Code (NCC): Work with technical stakeholders to integrate enforceable steelwork compliance requirements into the NCC.



Compliance &
Fair Competition

Renewable Energy Opportunities

- Local content strategy for energy infrastructure: Advocate for enforceable local content targets in publicly funded renewable projects (e.g. wind towers, transmission infrastructure).
- De-risk local investment: Introduce government-backed funding mechanisms and guarantees to encourage private investment in renewable manufacturing capacity.



Renewable Energy
Opportunities

Policy Leadership and Long-Term Investment

- Leverage government procurement: Use public procurement as a strategic tool to stimulate demand, incentivise quality, and support long-term investment across the manufacturing value chain.
- Maintain policy consistency: Advocate for the development of long-term government industrial strategies to provide clarity for investors and manufacturers.
- Advance credit-based incentives: Continue development of the proposal presented by John Titchen (Director, Goldwind) for an industry credit model to reward local procurement of wind farms.



Policy & Long-
Term Investment

Skills, Inclusion and Workforce Strategy

- Scale successful training models: Expand initiatives like the Corrections Victoria VET Centre of Excellence program, and the NSW Department of Education Schools program across multiple jurisdictions, incorporating augmented reality welding simulation technology.
- Align training with industry demand: Develop skills pathways targeted at advanced manufacturing and renewable energy needs, including welding, fabrication, and robotics.
- Support inclusive workforce development: Embed social procurement and employment outcomes in all major infrastructure and energy projects to ensure opportunities for second-chance and under-represented workers.



Skills, Inclusion
& Workforce

Structural and Economic Reform

- Address energy affordability: Explore options to reserve domestic gas for local industry and stabilise energy prices for manufacturers.
- Tax and trade reform: Review export pricing structures for Australian gas and minerals to ensure fair returns and reinvestment into local manufacturing.
- Rebalance subsidies: Shift government support from extractive industries toward advanced manufacturing and clean technology development.



Structural &
Economic Reform

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources



Queensland
Government

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND MEMBER EVENTS IN 2025

Each year, Weld Australia facilitates a variety of member-focused events to help ensure that the Australian welding industry remains strong, competitive and up-to-date with advancements in everything from technology, through to Australian Standards. Our events give members the opportunity to network and collaborate with like-minded individuals throughout the industry.

Not All Stainless Steels Are Created Equal

Adelaide, February

Hosted by Weld Australia, Materials Australia, and the Australian Corrosion Association, this technical night focused on stainless steels and their role in industry. Kingsley Brown, Principal Materials Engineer at ASC explored the suitability and limitations of stainless steel in demanding applications. Based on case studies the presentation focused on corrosion resistance and welding considerations in the material selection process for the safe and cost-effective design of stainless steel components and fabrications.



The Victoria Industry Drinks Night

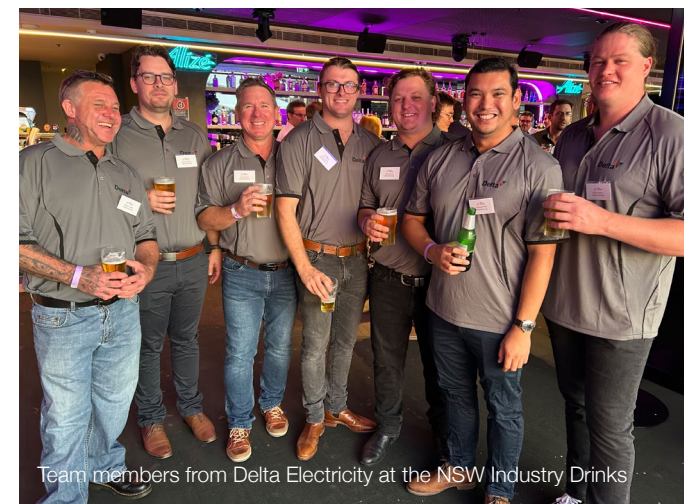


Not All Stainless Steels are Created Equal, in Adelaide in February

Victoria Industry Drinks Night

Melbourne, February

Held at Byblos in the Docklands and sponsored by Cigweld, the Victoria Industry Drinks Night was enjoyed by everyone who attended. Attendees heard from Geoff Crittenden (CEO, Weld Australia) who provided insights into Weld Australia's activities, as well as the recent changes to the welding fume exposure standards. Andrew Barnes (National Marketing Manager, Cigweld) also spoke to the crowd.



Team members from Delta Electricity at the NSW Industry Drinks

Western Australia Industry Drinks

Perth, March

Sponsored by Weldclass, the Western Australia Industry Drinks Night was a fantastic night. Attendees heard from Ben Mitchell (Director, Strategic Partnerships, Weld Australia) and Simon Doe (Director, Engineering, Weld Australia) who provided insights into Weld Australia's exciting plans for the rest of the year.



AWS D1.1 two day course in Melbourne

Navigating Insurance Pitfalls in Fabrication

Online, March

Presented by Andrew Miller, Managing Director at Scott & Broad Insurance Brokers, the webinar outlined major risk hazards and explained how to avoid common insurance mistakes relating to metal fabricators. Andrew touched on Contractual Liabilities, the effects on your insurance and how best to mitigate the risk.

New South Wales Industry Drinks

Sydney, March

Held at Cargo Bar in Darling Harbour and sponsored by TAFE NSW, the New South Wales Industry Drinks Night offered plenty of opportunities for networking and making new connections. Attendees heard from Geoff Crittenden (CEO, Weld Australia) who provided an industry update.



The Western Australia Industry Drinks



Maximising Productivity with Cobot Welding

Welding Standards Update

Online, April

Bruce Cannon (Principal Welding Engineer, Weld Australia) presented an online seminar on the various standards that impact the welding industry. He touched on design and fabrication standards, such as AS 4100 and AS/NZS 5100.6; pressure equipment standards, such as AS 3788, AS 4343 and AS 4458; structural standards, such as the AS/NZS1554 series, AS 2214, AS/NZS 1665; and provided a detailed overview of ISO standards.

Introduction to Weld Australia's Partnership with EWI and CWB

Online, April

Weld Australia announced a strategic partnership with two of the world's leading welding technology organisations—EWI (formerly the Edison Welding Institute) and the Canadian Welding Bureau. In this live webinar, attendees heard from: Ben Mitchell (Strategic Partnerships, Weld Australia), Doug Luciani (President and CEO, CWB Group), Henry Cialone (President and CEO, EWI) and Geoff Crittenden (CEO, Weld Australia).

Maximising Productivity with Cobot Welding

Adelaide, April

This technical night provided an insightful introduction to cobot welding, including the key reasons why investing in this technology is a game-changer. The session covered: why to choose cobot welding, the ColWeld software app, various cobot welding systems, jig design for cobot welding, sensing and adaptability.

Two Day Course: AWS D1.1 Structural Welding Code - Steel

Melbourne, April

Weld Australia hosted the very successful two day course on AWS D1.1 Structural Welding Code - Steel at the Hilton Hotel in Melbourne. The course was also facilitated online for the first time, enabling interstate attendees to attend without the travel. Understanding the AWS D1.1 code helps fabricators and welders ensure compliance with industry standards, improve weld quality and structural integrity, enhance job opportunities, and reduce the risk of costly rework or project delays. The course was facilitated by expert presenter Cristian Zanfir (Manager of Standards, Office of Public Safety, CWB Group).

What to Look for When Reviewing Subcontracts
Online, May

The session was presented by Charles Moran, a Partner at Lynch Meyer Lawyers. Charles looked at the essential components subcontractors need to consider when reviewing and negotiating contracts. He touched on the key considerations to help mitigate risk, and support successful project outcomes. Charles broke down complex topics so members were able to review their approach to subcontract agreements, to ensure fair project outcomes.

Laser Welding and Advanced Ultrasonics
Melbourne, May

Attendees had the opportunity to witness the latest technologies in laser welding and ultrasonic testing. They heard from industry experts and saw first-hand a demonstration of a joint being welded by a Laser Welding machine, and then the same joint being tested using the latest technologies in ultrasonic flaw detectors. Guest speakers included: Paul Trigg and Nick Eleftheriou from Evident Scientific; Cameron Jamieson from Industrial Laser Solutions; and David Wilson from Ringwood Training.

Two Day Course: Welded Structures
Adelaide, Brisbane and Online, June

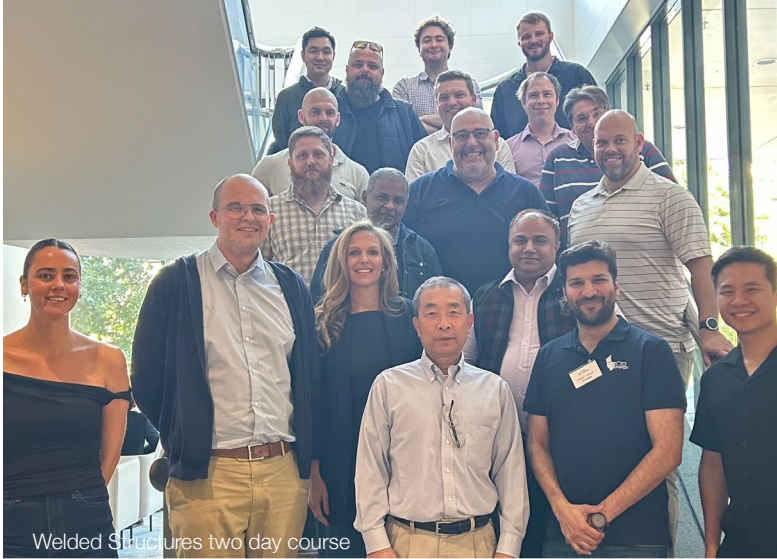
Weld Australia hosted the very successful two day course on Welded Structures in Adelaide and Brisbane. The course was also facilitated online for the first time. Facilitated by USA expert Pingsha Dong, the course covered the fundamentals that every engineer should know when designing welded components. From weld in-situ strength, residual stresses, and geometric discontinuities, every aspect plays a different role in contributing to resultant joint strength, and fatigue resistance.

Queensland Industry Drinks
Brisbane, June

Sponsored by Kemppi, the Queensland Industry Drinks Night was a great event, full of networking and industry insights. Attendees heard from Geoff Crittenden (CEO, Weld Australia) who provided an industry update, as well as insights into Weld Australia's activities, and exciting plans for the rest of the year. Stuart Orr (Sales Director, Kemppi) also gave attendees an overview.

South Australia Industry Drinks
Adelaide, June

Sponsored by W.E.S.S. and held at the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron, the South Australia Industry Drinks Night proved very popular. Attendees heard from Ben Mitchell (Director of Strategic Partnerships) who provided an industry update, and insights into Weld Australia's activities. Simon Doe (Director of Engineering) also gave an overview of Weld Australia's engineering team.



Welded Structures two day course



Laser Welding and Advanced Ultrasonics event in Melbourne



Career Path Night in Melbourne

Career Path Night
Melbourne, July

Weld Australia, Chisholm, and SEMMA hosted a session designed to showcase the wide-ranging career opportunities available in the welding and fabrication industry. Attendees learnt about the diverse roles that welding can lead to, from inspection and supervision to robotics, engineering, and beyond. The free event was designed to help school leavers, apprentices, and tradespeople explore what's possible.

Welding Fume Mitigation and Control
Sydney, July

Attendees had the opportunity to engage with solutions at the TAFE NSW campus (Wetherill Park) like on-gun fume extraction systems, hooded capture extraction, welding helmets with powered air-purifying respirators,

portable fume extractors, and optimised shielding gases. Dr Cornelius Van Niekerk from Weld Australia presented on welding fume mitigation and control.

Advanced Welding and Automation Roadshow: Student and Teacher Experience
Gold Coast, July

Weld Australia and the Queensland Government joined forces for: a Teacher Personal Development Day, designed specifically for teachers in the Gold Coast who want to stay ahead of the curve in STEM, trades and technology; and Student Engagement Days: Bringing an interactive welding and automation tech day to high schools across the Gold Coast. Students had the opportunity try augmented reality welding and cobots.

The Future of Welding Technology
Adelaide, September

This hands-on event brought attendees face-to-face with the latest in welding technology. There were live demonstrations of cutting-edge digital waveform processes that showed how these innovations can boost productivity, quality and efficiency in workshops. Attendees also learnt how to harness Industry 4.0 capabilities, improve connectivity, and manage big data in real-world fabrication environments.

Personal Welding Fume Detecton
Online, October

Hosted by Weldclass, this informative session provided an overview of how the latest personal welding fume detection devices: provide real-time monitoring to help welders and safety managers meet legal requirements; improve workplace air quality; and proactively manage risk exposure with welding fumes.

Welding Fume Mitigation and Control
Melbourne, October

This was an informative evening on fume control and minimising exposure to welding fumes. The event began with a brief introduction and discussion on current best practices, followed by live demonstrations from leading equipment manufacturers showcasing the latest advancements in fume control technology. Attendees gained practical insights into how modern equipment can enhance workplace safety and ensure compliance with updated exposure regulations.

Three Day Course: ASME Section IX
Brisbane and Online, October

The ASME code is the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) standard that regulates the design, development and construction of boilers and pressure vessels. ASME Section IX specifies the requirements for the qualification of welders and the welding procedure specifications. The course was facilitated by US expert Walter J. Sperko, President of Sperko Engineering Services.



Queensland Industry Drinks Night



South Australia Industry Drinks Night



Welding Fume Mitigation and Control Event in Sydney



Welding Fume Mitigation and Control Event in Sydney

Further Information

For further information about Weld Australia's events, or to register for an upcoming event, visit: weldaustralia.com.au

INDUSTRY EVENTS IN 2025

From expos and career fairs, through to Australian Manufacturing Week, Weld Australia was on hand to answer questions and represent the Australian welding industry. In addition to major events, Weld Australia also exhibited at smaller regional events like the Try A Trade Showcase in Gladstone and the Charleville Careers Expo.

South East Field Days

Lucindale, March
Simon Doe (Director, Engineering, Weld Australia) attended the South East Field Days in Lucindale, South Australia as a guest of W.E.S.S. The South East Field Days is a premier two day agricultural event held annually in March. With over 500 exhibitors the focus is on showcasing the latest in agricultural products, services, and equipment. While at the event, Simon spoke to a range of companies to explore how Weld Australia can better support the agricultural sector.

Professional Learning for VET Manufacturing and Engineering Teachers

Perth, March
Weld Australia was proud to be part of a day of learning, connection, and industry engagement for educators and stakeholders in the engineering and manufacturing training sector. The day began at Engineers Australia in Perth, followed by a site visit to Adarsh Australia's state-of-the-art facility. Participants heard from trainers about their experiences teaching various engineering units. This was followed by presentations from leading industry employers.

QMEA Tradies for a Day

Brisbane, March
Weld Australia was proud to support the QMEA Tradies for a Day workshop hosted by Bowen State High School in March. The event brought together students and industry representatives from across the trades to explore hands-on activities and gain a deeper understanding of career pathways in the vocational and technical sectors.

Australian Manufacturing Week

Melbourne, May
Weld Australia was pleased to be a part of the very successful Australian Manufacturing Week (AMW2025), held at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre. Organised and run by AMTIL, AMW2025 saw more than 7,700 people attend to visit the 400 exhibitors, and take in the sessions at the Future Solutions Speaker Program. The Weld Australia stand proved popular, with many people eager to try the welding simulators.

Weld Australia and TAFE NSW Industry Roundtable

Sydney, May
Weld Australia and TAFE NSW hosted a highly successful roundtable meeting. A range of topics was discussed,

including: centres of excellence, micro-credentials, workforce needs, and learning resources. The event was attended by industry representatives, including Mick Cameron (MC Quality Control), Chris Hudson (Innovation and Business Skills Australia), Jason Darney, (TAFE NSW) and Imma Kathir (New World).

ACA Water Industry Seminar

Adelaide, June
Weld Australia's Director of Engineering, Simon Doe, presented two papers at the Australasian Corrosion Association's Water Industry Seminar. Hosted by SA Water, the seminar covered a range of topics relevant to the water industry, including the use of 3D printing in infrastructure applications,

sustainability considerations for sewerage systems, and assessing the condition of ageing assets.

ACSEV Introduction to Welding Engineering

Melbourne, June
The Association of Consultant Engineers Victoria (ACSEV) hosted a highly successful technical presentation titled 'Introduction to Welding Engineering', featuring Victor Blain, General Manager Engineering at Weld Australia, as the guest speaker. The event was a resounding success, with a turnout of 90 attendees, reflecting the strong interest in the topic and the relevance of welding engineering in structural design and construction.

Trades Fit Expo

Melbourne, June
Weld Australia exhibited at 'Trades Fit – Young Women in Trades and Tech', an annual expo hosted by the Victorian Department of Education and Training. The expo showcased employment options within the trades and tech industries, with interactive displays so students experience what these careers could offer.

IIW 2025

Italy, June
In conjunction with the 78th Annual Assembly of the International Institute of Welding (IIW), the Italian Welding Institute hosted the International Conference on Advances in Welding, Joining and Additive Manufacturing in Genoa. Weld Australia attended the event, which provided a platform for knowledge exchange and networking among scientists, researchers and industry experts in the field of welding and joining.

EduTECH Conference

Sydney, June
EduTECH 2025 was held at the International Convention Centre in Sydney, and featured over 550 local and international speakers who covered the latest trends and technologies shaping the education sector. The largest education event in Australia, the conference featured hundreds of exhibitors showcasing cutting-edge solutions, including Weld Australia with the Soldamatic augmented reality simulator. The event was attended by over 12,000 people.

Say Yes to the Trades Expo

Sydney, August
More than 350 students attended the Say Yes to the Trades Expo in Sydney to find out about careers in trades and welding. This was the fourth year the Say Yes to Trades Expo has been held and the turnout was the largest to date. Students were able to talk directly to industry about apprenticeship opportunities and learn more about the kind of support that is available to students studying a trade.

Queensland Resources and Innovation Expo

Mackay, July
Weld Australia exhibited at the Queensland Innovation and Resources Expo in Mackay. The event showcased cutting-edge technologies, fostered industry collaboration, and highlighted sustainable advancements in the resources sector. With the backing of principal sponsor Queensland Resources Council and major sponsors Mackay Regional Council and Local Buying Foundation, the event brought together industry leaders, technology innovators, policymakers, investors and more.



QMEA Tradies for a Day



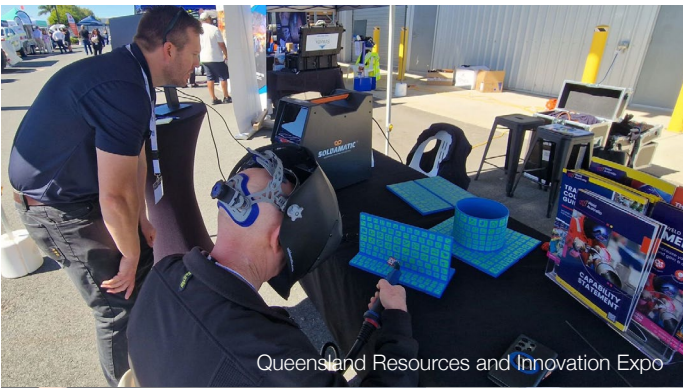
South East Field Days



Professional Learning for VET Manufacturing and Engineering Teachers



Australian Manufacturing Week



Queensland Resources and Innovation Expo



ACA Water Industry Seminar

WORLDSKILLS AUSTRALIA: 2025 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SKILLS SHOW

Weld Australia was proud to support WorldSkills Australia's 2025 National Championships and Skills Show at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre in June.

Over three days, attendees had the opportunity to learn about career pathways from over 120 education providers and employers, witness Australia's best apprentices, students and trainees compete in over 60 skills competitions, and try out a wide range of skills and trades for themselves.

Over 600 elite competitors from every state and territory undertook three days of intense competition across more than 60 skill areas, from welding, cyber security and cabinetmaking to floristry and plumbing. Over three days at Skills Show Australia, top Regional competitors from across the country came together to showcase their talents and benchmark their skills against industry peers on the national stage. The 2025 winners for welding were:

- Gold: Shaun Meinecke, Illawarra NSW
- Silver: Jet Mules, South East South Australia
- Bronze: Tyson Read, Northern Region South Australia

Visitors also flocked to the event's hands-on Try'aSkill stations, where hundreds tested their own abilities, while also engaging directly with training providers, employers, and industry experts. Weld Australia hosted one of the stations, with students trying their hand at the Soldamatic augmented reality welding simulators.



L to R: Guy Brooks (Weld Australia), Jet Mules, Shaun Meinecke and Tyson Read.



THE VETiS AR Welding Competition at WorldSkills

The VETiS AR Welding Competition was run in conjunction with Weld Australia and tested competitors on their skills in welding using the Soldamatic augmented reality welding simulator. Competitors learnt welding procedures and techniques through a more interactive training method, gaining hands-on experience in a controlled, safe environment.

The 2025 winners were:

- Gold: Andrew Sherman, South Australia
- Silver: Emre Taskin, New South Wales
- Bronze: Jade Woonton, South Australia



2025 WELDING EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Weld Australia was pleased to present its Welding Excellence Awards in 2025. The Awards embody and promote the highest standards of craftsmanship, quality and professionalism. The 2025 Welding Excellence Awards presented a fantastic opportunity for welders, fabricators and educators across Australia to showcase their people and their operations. Winners are awarded in each state for each of the categories below. Award ceremonies were held around the country in October and November.

Company of the Year

The Company of the Year Award recognises superior performance across a comprehensive range of business metrics. There are three sub-categories: Fabrication; Supplier; and Indigenous.

Welding Professional of the Year

This Award recognises professionals who are making a valuable contribution to the Australian welding and fabrication industry. There are three sub-categories: Welding Coordinator; Welding Supervisor; and Welding Inspector.

Trades Person of the Year

This Award recognises people who are making a valuable contribution to the Australian welding and fabrication industry. There are three sub-categories: Young Trades Person; and Trades Person.

Training and Education Award – Organisation

The Training and Education Award recognises the outstanding achievements of a STEM or VET provider or program. Entrants may include secondary education and tertiary education providers. Criteria include delivery of quality, innovative training programs, involvement

with industry, recruitment and retention of students, and corporate social responsibility.

Training and Education Award – Individual Teacher

This Award recognises the outstanding achievements of a STEM or VET teacher at TAFEs, independent RTOs and private companies. Entrants will be judged on criteria such as delivery of quality, innovative training programs, high level of knowledge or craftsmanship, strong links with students, and dedication to their profession.

Project of the Year

The Project of the Year Award recognises excellence in welding and fabrication projects, with a focus on exceptional craftsmanship, a commitment to Australian and International Standards, environmental sustainability and innovation.

Health and Safety in Welding

This Award recognises organisations that are leading the way in encouraging and promoting health and safety throughout the Australian welding industry, and ensuring the health and safety of their own team.

WITH THANKS TO OUR NATIONAL AWARDS SPONSORS



WITH THANKS TO OUR STATE AWARDS SPONSORS



PREMIER WELDER TRAINING

Weld Australia is Australia's premier welder training organisation. We understand the value of ongoing professional development and are committed to upskilling the next generation of welders. Weld Australia qualifications, certifications and training courses can boost your earning potential and job stability, and make you the preferred candidate for large-scale welding projects around the globe. Plus, continued professional development demonstrates to employers that you're dedicated to continually learning and growing in your field—qualities that are essential for leadership roles and complex projects. This year, we progressed with the MEM Learning Resources project, and facilitated a whole host of training.



In-house training at BAE Systems.



Training course in Mackay.



IWE practical training in Wollongong.

In 2025, our team of expert trainers facilitated more than 30 courses. We saw an uplift of 4.3% in the number of people completing courses, for a total of 509 people this year. The IWI-B course proved particularly popular, with a 32% increase in enrolments year-on-year.

Development of New Training Course

This year, we ran the first intake of a new training course: Welding Inspector - AS 1796 Certificate 11. Recently introduced to AS1796, this qualification builds upon the foundation knowledge expected of a Welding Supervisor with a distinct emphasis on inspection activities related to pressure equipment. It touches on welding imperfections and defects in various materials, and non-destructive and destructive testing.

In-House Training Courses

Weld Australia facilitated in-house training and welder testing for a whole host of companies in 2025.

In April, Weld Australia delivered IWI-B training in Tasmania for TMEC (the Tasmanian Minerals, Manufacturing and Energy Council), with participants completing three days of theory followed by two days of practical training.

In May, Weld Australia facilitated a successful round of IWI-S training for ASC in Adelaide. Over two intensive days, participants deepened their knowledge of welding inspection standards, while applying inspection theory in a hands-on setting.

In July, Weld Australia delivered the AS 1796 Certificate 10 course and the AS 2214 Welding Supervisor course in Mackay, Queensland, as part of its commitment to building capability and strengthening the future of Australia's welding industry, particularly in regional and resource-focused areas.

In August, Weld Australia delivered the IWI-B training course for BAE Systems. The course, an essential qualification for aspiring welding inspectors, was delivered with the goal of enhancing the skills and knowledge of BAE Systems' team members and ensuring the highest levels of weld quality across their operations.



509
People completed
training courses



123
IWI-B
Students



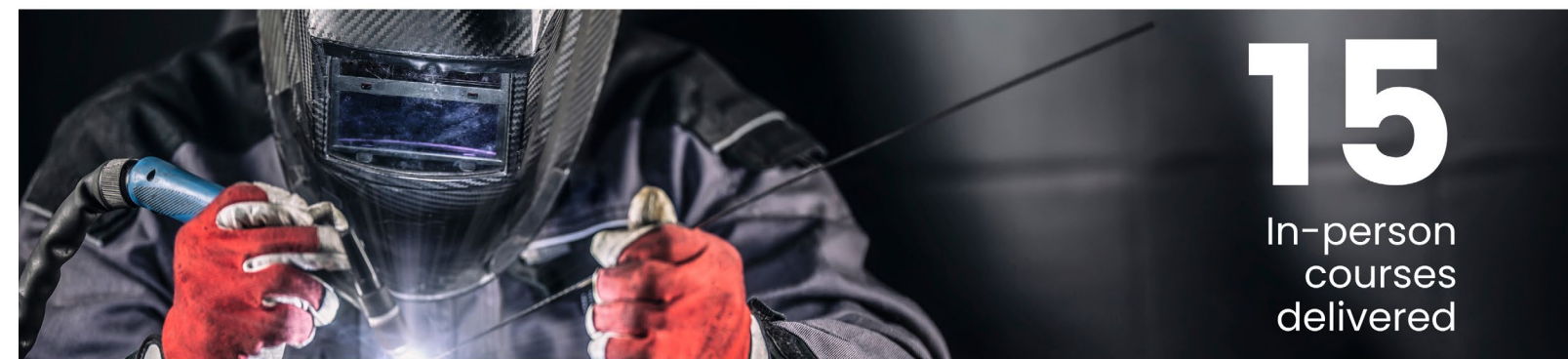
31
Courses
delivered



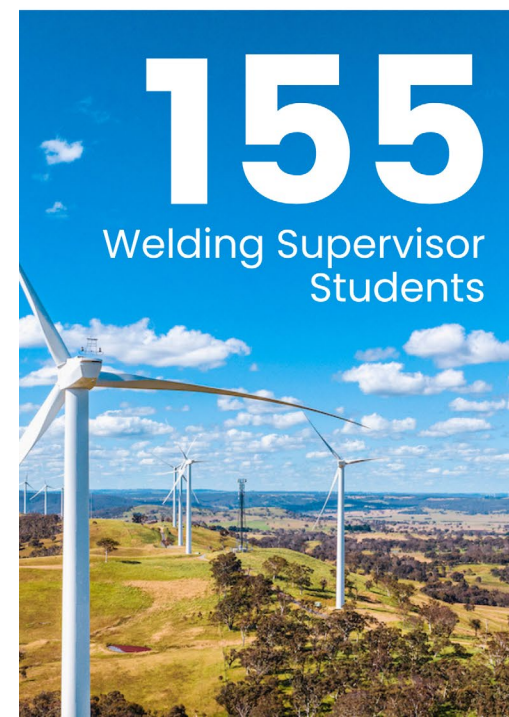
26
IWE & IWT
Students



70
IWI-S
Students



15
In-person
courses
delivered



155
Welding Supervisor
Students



20
IWS Students



46
Welding
Fundamentals
Students



WELD AUSTRALIA CONTINUES ROLL-OUT OF MEM TRAINING PACKAGE RESOURCES

Late last year, Weld Australia launched a new suite of learning resources for the Manufacturing and Engineering Training Package.

Weld Australia designed and created a suite of resources for delivery of the 12 welding and fabrication units of competency in the Manufacturing and Engineering (MEM) Training Package.

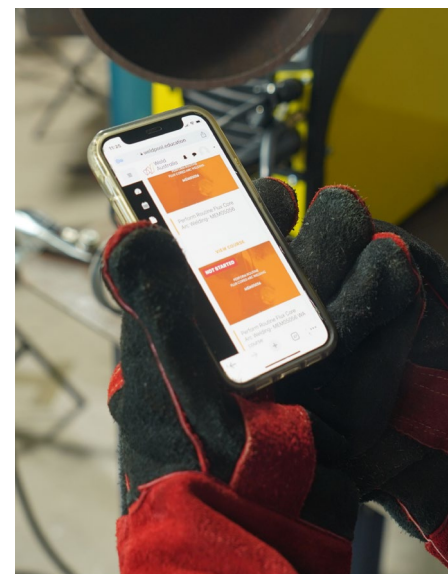
According to Geoff Crittenden, CEO, Weld Australia, "Our resources help simplify the learning process for students, teachers and training institutes and—most importantly—place the student at centre of the

learning process. Weld Australia believes that a national industry, which has a national learning package, needs national learning resources. Whether you're an apprentice in Kalgoorlie, Ultimo or Davenport, you should have access to the same, high-quality training. Our goal is to help ensure that high-quality welder learning is consistent across the country."

Weld Australia formed a national consortium of TAFEs to work on the project. Over the last two years, the consortium has collaborated with us to develop the most engaging, up-to-date resources possible.

Members of the consortium piloted use of the resources, and some TAFEs have already adopted them permanently.

Weld Australia's MEM Learning Resources have been built with students, teachers and training organisations in mind. It reimagines the learning process with its user-friendly interface, diversified delivery methods, and audited and accurate material. The new MEM resources are completely online and accessible via phone, mobile device or computer. This allows students to access learning at the time, place and pace that suits them best.



South Metropolitan TAFE in Fremantle, Western Australia was the first training organisation to facilitate an official pilot. The feedback received from students and lecturers alike was extremely positive.

This year, Weld Australia focused on the implementation of the resources by more TAFEs and RTOs nationally, ensuring that welders receive the same high quality standard of training, regardless of their location.

WELD AUSTRALIA LAUNCHES A FREE MICROCREDENTIAL: FUNDAMENTALS OF COBOTIC WELDING

In 2025, Weld Australia, supported by the Australian Cobotics Centre, BOC and Diverseco and proudly funded by the Queensland Government, introduced a free microcredential: Fundamentals of Cobotic Welding.

Designed to help local fabricators integrate automation and stay globally competitive across mining, structural fabrication, defence, rail, pressure and pipeline sectors, the program broadened access to practical, job-ready skills.

The microcredential served a wide audience, from TAFE apprentices and entry-level welders to tradespeople, manufacturers, educators and industry professionals exploring cobot adoption. Participants gained:

- Core principles of cobotic welding and real-world applications
- How to prepare a workplace for cobot welding (safety, setup, skills)
- The business case for cobot deployment and its long-term workforce impact

The initiative strengthened Australia's advanced manufacturing capability and created a clear upskilling pathway for organisations and individuals looking to embed collaborative automation on the workshop floor.

If you would like any further information, please contact Dr Cornelis Van Niekerk, Manager of Advanced Manufacturing, Weld Australia on c.vanniekerk@weldaustralia.com.au

REGISTER NOW



FURTHER INFORMATION

To find out more about Weld Australia's new MEM learning resources, email training@weldaustralia.com.au

LINKING MEMBERS: WELD AUSTRALIA'S INDUSTRY NETWORKS IN 2025

Weld Australia's Industry Groups provide a forum for technology transfer and research and development, linking members with industry and research organisations. Weld Australia works with Industry Group members to ensure they remain diverse and resilient in the ever-changing and increasingly challenging global markets.

POWER GENERATION INDUSTRY GROUP

Asset Integrity Board

The Asset Integrity Board met online in late February, and again in August, with representatives from EnergyAustralia, Delta Electricity, Alinta-Loy Yang B, CS Energy, Genuity-Millmerran and Stanwell.

Attendees gave an update on the current issues affecting their operations.

The Group discussed broadening the scope of the Boiler Turbine Industry Group to include other areas such as electrical generators, PIBs, transformers, and switchgear. This will give a forum to discuss these areas and share knowledge and experiences.

Many member power generators are constructing and installing Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). Issues associated with BESS include procurement of major items, procurement models,

principal contractors and safety in design. Electrical systems are also an important part of a BESS. These are to be included in future agendas and to be included in the Renewable Energy Industry Group.

A major project is to be developed to investigate ageing plant and metallurgy in the context of providing high levels of reliability in a volatile energy market. Many plants are operating beyond their initial design lives and will likely be required for extended operations beyond current closure planned dates. This is particularly concerning in light of critical skills shortages. This project is to be further developed at the next meeting of the Group.

The Process Safety Industry Group was also discussed. There are two projects currently underway: development of a Process Safety Fundamentals Course, and a Communications Hub to enable open communication between members.

Boiler Turbine Industry Group

The Boiler Turbine Industry Group met in Melbourne in mid-March. The meeting was well attended with 32 attending in-person and 26 online.

The meeting started with Randal Jitts (Delta Electricity) leading a discussion on a proposed project to share pressure welding resources. Most of the power plants in Australia have exceeded their design life and the electricity market is more volatile. Boiler tube leaks are a major cause of forced outages. These can potentially cause network instability and blackouts.

Other presentations included:

- Simon van der Zalm (Greenview Strategic Consulting) gave an in-depth presentation on the workings and composition of the National Electricity Market.
- Chris Charlesworth (SRG Global) gave a presentation on Advanced Non-Destructive Testing of Steam Turbine Rotors.
- Wayne Hill (EnergyAustralia) presented on the major project to



Boiler Turbine Industry Group Meeting in March.

investigate ageing plant, ageing metallurgy, failure modes, NDT, the effect of a volatile electricity market and the possible extension of operations for a number of power stations.

- Rhod Edwards (Stanwell Corporation) gave a presentation on Steam Turbine Low Load Operations.
- Adam Smith (Delta Electricity) gave a presentation on fireside corrosion at Vales Point Power Station.
- Hassan Jamshidi gave a presentation on Yallourn Unit 4

LP Turbine rotor weld repairs.

- Anna Paradowska (ANSTO) gave an overview presentation on the capabilities of ANSTO relating to a range of metallurgical investigations and inspection methods.
- Bruce Cannon provided a update on Australian Standards.

Attendees also visited the Uneek Bending tube banding facility in Dandenong to inspect the site, equipment and capabilities. Many thanks to Tony Fernando for hosting the visit.

The Group met again in August, hosted by Delta Electricity at the Vales Point Power Station in Lake Macquarie, New South Wales. It was an extremely successful meeting, with over 40 people attending in person and another 15 people dialing in online.

Presentations included:

- Ben Macey (AMEO) provided an overview of power system requirements for system strength, covering the current system conditions, considerations, and gaps in security.



Boiler Turbine Industry Group Meeting in August.

- Nigel Atkins (EnergyAustralia) presented the Yallourn steam turbine life-planning program.
- Charles White (Delta Electricity) gave a presentation on low load issues at Vales Point.
- Randall Jitts (Delta Electricity) spoke about generation supply mix and generator operational life extension due to delay in renewables coming online.
- Hassan Jamshidi (EnergyAustralia) gave an overview of the Hallett gas turbine remnant life assessment.
- Wayne McAuliffe (Genuity) gave a presentation on a number of major projects undertaken during recent outages at the Millmerran Power Station.
- Mark Rooney (Loy Yang B) spoke about boiler openings at the facility.
- Mathew Billman (UNEK) gave an overview of the general welding capabilities of the company, including management systems

and components used in the power industry.

Process Safety Industry Group

The Process Safety Industry Group met online in October.

Lara Kayess (Aurecon) gave an overview of a Process Safety Fundamentals Course that is under development. Her presentation examined the needs of the members and how a course may be structured.

There was a discussion around the Power Generation Process Safety Standard. This included the idea of establishing a Working Group to develop and review a Power Generation Performance Guidance document.

Power Generation Boiler Inspection Training Course

In conjunction with HRL, Weld Australia reviewed and updated a Power Generation Boiler Inspection

Course. The two day course covers an overview of the parts and structure of a boiler, failure and damage mechanisms, non-destructive inspection techniques and a range of case studies. Plans are currently being made for further courses in Western Australia and Queensland.

WELDING SAFETY COUNCIL

The Welding Safety Council (WSC) meeting was opened by Bruce Cannon (Weld Australia) who gave an update on Australian Standards which are currently under revision and how they affect the welding industry. Bruce also covered the IIW's investigation of hand-held laser welders, and the revision of some of Weld Australia's free technical resources.

Weld Australia is in the early stages of a study investigating the efficacy of weld fume controls. The work will feed into our Fume Minimisation Guidelines and provide fabricators

with better guidance on suitable measures to minimise fume exposure. It was decided that an Education Safety Committee will be established to operate in the same way as the WSC but with a focus on the education sector.

EDUCATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Education Safety Committee met online in February for the first time. Simon Doe (Weld Australia) gave an opening address, after which there was a discussion of the aims, objectives and structure of the Committee.

The Committee will address issues such as hand-held laser welding machines, weld fume, electric shock, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and clothing fires and more.

RENEWABLE ENERGY INDUSTRY NETWORK

Planning is now underway for the next meeting of the Renewable Energy Industry Group. This is to be held in late October.

The Group advocates for government

action to protect Australia's fabrication industry by implementing the following critical measures:

- Enforce mandatory local content requirements on all government-funded renewables projects, with explicit reference to Australian-fabricated steel.
- Mandate that at least 50–60% of all steel used in government-funded renewables projects is fabricated locally by qualified, certified Australian welders, unless a genuine, documented exception applies.
- Require compulsory inspection of all imported fabricated steel prior to erection, to verify full compliance with Australian Standards and protect public safety.

DEFENCE INDUSTRY NETWORK

The Defence Industry Network is focused on companies who are either already operating in the defence supply chain, or have ambitions of joining it. Our aim is to ensure that contractual commitments to Australian Industry Content and Indigenous

Participation are honoured. The structure of the Defence Industry Network is currently under review, with a refreshed and strengthened model planned for 2026.

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY NETWORK

The aim of the Advanced Manufacturing Industry Network is to accelerate the adoption of advanced welding technologies, address chronic skills shortages, and boost productivity across key supply chains in defence, infrastructure, mining, and advanced manufacturing. This Industry Network is also under review, and it is expected that it will be relaunched in 2026.

Further Information

For further information or to join one of our Industry Groups, contact: Andrew Davies on a.davies@weldaustralia.com.au or 0438 428 966.



Clockwise from top left: The Boiler Course at Loy Yang B, Tarong and Vales Point.

THE BENEFITS OF INDUSTRY NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

- A confidential forum for discussing issues with peers
- A unified body that advocates for change among industry clients
- Advantageous access to technical advice and engineering support
- The opportunity to benchmark against industry best practice
- A conduit between industry and research organisations
- Beneficial nationally and internationally accredited training
- Cost effective certification products and services
- Collaborative sharing of resources and services for repair options in accordance with Australian and international standards
- Opportunities to influence Australian Standards, contract terms and specifications
- Opportunity to participate in research and development projects
- Technology transfer and networking via industry specific forums

JOIN NOW



FROM RAIL TO MINING: BUILDING ENGINEERING MOMENTUM

In 2024–2025, Weld Australia’s engineering team experienced significant growth. Consultancy project volume rose by approximately 62% year-on-year, with the team delivering 102 consultancy projects for 61 clients. This points to the team’s growing capacity to deliver: more work won, more delivered, and more organisations choosing to partner with us.

New business growth was particularly strong, with new projects secured across a diverse range of sectors right across Australia, including rail, water, piping, defence, legal, and mining. This broadening of our client base demonstrates both the versatility of the team and the trust being placed in our expertise by industries with complex and varied needs.

Weld Australia’s engineering team also launched a new expert witness service. This service is grounded in decades of real-world industry experience and a deep understanding of compliance frameworks. Our engineers are internationally certified, highly trained, and engaged for a range of services.

Weld Australia have experience supporting:

- Construction and infrastructure disputes focused on structural steel non-conformances
- Rolling stock warranty investigations under EN 15085
- Forensic engineering assessments post-incident in rolling stock and structural steel
- Welding quality system audits in response to procurement or compliance challenges
- Health and Safety incidents for liability and insurance claims



BROAD & DEEP EXPERTISE

With expertise in a wide range of industries, from defence, manufacturing and composites to rail and resources, Weld Australia has the uniquely broad and deep capability needed to solve your welding problems. Our extensive experience across various sectors provides the comprehensive insight and adaptability necessary to tackle complex welding challenges, ensuring solutions are effective and tailored to your industry.



Power



Oil & Gas



Infrastructure



Defence



Manufacturing



Buildings



Renewables



Aerospace



Mining



Rail & Rolling Stock



Pipelines & Pressure Vessels



Mineral Processing

PROJECT PROFILE: VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES RESCUE TRUCK

Weld Australia’s engineering team supported the Victoria State Emergency Services (SES) in 2025 with their rescue truck project. The Victoria SES is a volunteer-based emergency service organisation responding to natural disasters, road rescues, and emergency incidents across Victoria. To enhance safety and operational efficiency, Victoria SES undertook this project to ensure the highest standards in vehicle design, fabrication, and welding quality. Weld Australia supported the Victoria SES with:

- Design review
- Implementation of welding technical specifications and procedures
- Prototype inspection to assess initial fabrication, weld quality, and conformance with design specifications
- Technical review of welding processes and documentation
- Supplier evaluation, including assessment of welding capability, certifications, and quality systems
- Development of welding specifications and tender requirements to ensure quality compliance
- Execution of supplier audits to evaluate manufacturing processes, welding procedures, and quality assurance measures



HOW WE CAN HELP

Weld Australia has the largest team of International Welding Engineers (IWE) in Australia. Issued by the International Institute of Welding (IIW), this qualification is the highest post-graduate professional welding qualification available. All IWEs have advanced knowledge and a critical understanding of welding technology and can:

- Solve complex and unpredictable welding engineering problems
- Manage projects related to a wide range of welding applications
- Demonstrate mastery and innovation in materials and welding technology
- Manage welding coordination activities

All solutions delivered by our Engineering team are reviewed by another Senior Welding Engineer and, depending on the complexity of the assignment, one of our Principal Welding Engineers.

Our solutions include:

- Analysis and resolution of complex welding, materials and fabrication problems
- Design, development and project management of fabrication solutions
- Design and qualification of welded connections
- Advice on safety practices pertaining to welding, cutting and joining
- Review of requirements and technical review
- Weld failure investigation
- Drafting and review of fabrication specifications
- Welding inspection and supervision
- Writing and review of welding procedures
- Optimisation of maintenance for risk mitigation
- Welder qualifications
- Supply chain assessment and development
- Weld maps and quality documentation
- Comprehensive failure investigations and engineering critical assessments
- Expert evidence and witnessing services
- Pipeline in-service welding, repairs, hot tapping
- Burn through calculation

NEED ENGINEERING SUPPORT?

With diverse expertise in industries like defence, manufacturing, construction, rolling stock, infrastructure, power generation and mining, Weld Australia has the unique capability and experience to solve your welding problems. Simply email: engineering@weldaustralia.com.au

BUILDING EXCELLENCE: ACHIEVEMENTS IN QUALIFICATION & CERTIFICATION

In March 2025, Weld Australia launched an innovative combined certification service for AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131. This new offering streamlines the certification process for fabricators and structural steel manufacturers, reducing time, cost, and administrative burden while ensuring compliance with both critical standards.

By integrating the audits for AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131, Weld Australia eliminates redundant certification processes, providing a simplified, efficient, and cost-effective solution. Companies seeking AS/NZS ISO 3834 certification can now opt to include AS/NZS 5131 as part of a single, comprehensive audit, ensuring compliance with welding quality and structural steel requirements in one streamlined step.

According to Geoff Crittenden, CEO of Weld Australia, “Our new AS/NZS ISO 3834+ certification service is a game-changer for the Australian welding and structural steel industry. We know that managing multiple certification processes can be complex and time-consuming, which is why we developed this streamlined solution. Our combined certification offering removes unnecessary duplication, making compliance easier and more accessible for businesses of all sizes.”

“By consolidating audits into a single, integrated process, companies will experience significant cost savings, as they no longer need to undergo separate assessments. Additionally, the time and effort saved by avoiding multiple audits will allow businesses to focus on operational efficiency and quality outcomes rather than administrative burdens.”

KEY BENEFITS

Achieving combined certification with Weld Australia delivers significant benefits for fabricators and purchasing organisations alike:



Efficient Compliance: A single process covering both AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131 eliminates duplication and saves resources.



Cost Savings: Combining the certification process lowers overall costs compared to obtaining separate certifications, offering greater value.



Time and Effort Reduction: Combined certification minimises administrative burdens and operational disruptions associated with separate audits.



Enhanced Technical Knowledge: All personnel—trades, inspectors, supervisors, and managers—benefit from increased technical expertise.



Improved Market Access: Certification demonstrates compliance with industry standards, improving supply chain opportunities both locally and overseas.



Risk Mitigation: Reducing errors means less rework, which reduces project costs and overruns, keeping schedules and budgets on track.

114

Companies
certified to
AS/NZS ISO 3834



2

Companies
certified to
DIN 2303



17

Companies
certified to
EN 15085



29

Newly
certified
companies



5

Companies
certified to
AS/NZS 5131



Weld Australia Delivers AICIP Certifications

In March, Weld Australia took over both the In-Service Inspector (ISI) and Senior In-Service Inspector (SISI) certifications and examinations previously performed by the Australian Institute for the Certification of Inspection Personnel (AICIP). Weld Australia rolled out the new WeldQ site for the AICIP examinations, which were held online in May and again in October.

Recognised nationally, AICIP certification can expand your career options and job opportunities. Examinations assess the level of skill, knowledge and capability of professionals working in the pressure equipment sector to ensure the integrity and safety of plant and pressure equipment inspection.

WeldQ Platform: Upgraded for a Better User Experience

This year, Weld Australia delivered significant updates to the WeldQ platform, making it easier than ever for welders to manage their qualifications and certifications.

The upgraded user interface features a cleaner, more intuitive design, streamlining navigation and simplifying the way users access key tools and information. The system has been refined to reduce complexity, improve usability, and ensure a smoother experience across desktop and mobile devices.

These improvements reflect our ongoing commitment to supporting the welding community with reliable, user-friendly digital solutions that save time and deliver real value.

WeldQ is a cloud-based platform developed by Weld Australia and is used for the Australian Welder Certification Register (AWCR) to manage welder qualifications, certifications, and career history. It provides welders with a digital platform to store their credentials, serve as a digital ID, and allows industry to access a database of certified welders for recruitment and skills gap analysis.



WHAT WELD AUSTRALIA MEMBERS HAVE TO SAY

Weld Australia's members and partners are made up of individual welding professionals, as well as companies of all sizes. In fact, Weld Australia members are involved in almost every facet of Australian industry and make a significant contribution to the nation's economy. We recently spoke with a number of our members and partners, eliciting their feedback on our activities, services and membership benefits.

Certification that Opens Doors: JS Metal Engineering's Journey with Weld Australia

For JS Metal Engineering, achieving dual certification to AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131 wasn't just about compliance. It was a strategic move to unlock new opportunities in Australia's infrastructure pipeline.

As Majid Saleem (Quality Manager and Responsible Welding Coordinator at JS Metal Engineering) explained, the decision was driven by real-world project requirements. "We've been working on government contracts for the last three or four years," said Saleem. "The Victorian Government now requires AS/NZS 5131 CC3 for new contracts. We needed that certification in place to proceed."

With tight timelines and major projects waiting, JS Metal Engineering turned to Weld Australia, and never looked back.

"It was a very easy process for us. Weld Australia was very helpful. They gave us the right feedback at the right time to achieve certification quickly. It was a very smooth process."

JS Metal had initially begun the AS/NZS 5131 only certification journey with another provider, but

delays meant that the process had been dragging on for months. "We are still waiting on the other provider's document review, even now," said Saleem. "I was already a member of Weld Australia, and when I received an email about the combined AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131 certification, I convinced the owner of JS Metal Engineering, Xavier, that we should switch certification bodies."

Despite having already invested in the previous provider, the decision paid off quickly. "Weld Australia was very efficient. It only took one extra week to complete both certifications together in the same audit. It was a great opportunity to get everything done at the same time."

The impact was immediate. "One of our big jobs was on hold," Saleem explained. "We couldn't start without CC3. It's now progressing as planned. Plus, since achieving certification, we're quoting more and more jobs. We're very busy now."

The streamlined process and tangible benefits have made Saleem a strong advocate. "One of my friends is also looking for AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131 certification. I've already recommended Weld Australia. It's great for welding and fabrication companies. You don't have to go

“

Weld Australia's audit process stands out. Their team brings an exceptional level of knowledge and industry experience that you don't often see. The auditors don't just check compliance. They work with you to identify practical improvements that enhance your operations.”

through multiple audits, and it's much more cost effective.”

For JS Metal Engineering, dual certification wasn't just about meeting a requirement. It was about building credibility, reducing overheads, and securing the future of their fabrication business. With Weld Australia's support, they've turned a challenge into a competitive edge.

Precision Metal Group: Weld Australia's Certification Adds Real Value to Our Business

At Precision Metal Group, certification isn't just a requirement. It's a strategic foundation for everything the company does.

"With a suite of certifications across EN 15085, AS/NZS ISO 3834, DIN 2303, AS/NZS 5131, ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 45001, and ISO 27001, we understand the difference between a tick-box exercise and a genuinely valuable audit process," said Jason Elias, CEO of Precision Metal Group.

"That's why we chose Weld Australia for our combined AS/NZS ISO 3834, AS/NZS 5131, EN 15085 and DIN 2303 certification. Weld Australia's audit process stands out. Their team brings an exceptional level of knowledge and real-world industry experience that you don't often see. The auditors don't just check compliance. They work with you to identify practical improvements that enhance your systems and operations."

For Elias, that insight is what makes the Weld Australia certification process a cut above the rest. "The level of detail in their assessment and the professionalism of their auditors adds real value. They understand the realities of fabrication and welding and tailor their approach accordingly. It's constructive, collaborative, and genuinely improves the way we work."

The dual certification process was also efficient and cost-effective. "Being able to combine AS/NZS ISO 3834 and AS/NZS 5131 into one audit was a huge advantage. It minimised disruption to our operations and helped us streamline our internal documentation and processes."

The result? A certification process that supports continual improvement, enhances capability, and reinforces Precision Metal Group's reputation as a leader in high-compliance fabrication.

"Weld Australia's certification is more than a certificate. It gives our clients confidence that we're operating at the highest standards, backed by a rigorous and respected industry body," said Elias.

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OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP PACKAGES



Securing the future of
Australia's welding industry



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